Festival Views 1979-1987

May, 1987 Suggested donation $1

Age-old and world-wide spring festivals bring the human community into harmony with itself and with the Earth on which our lives depend.

We who inhabit the modern cities lose touch with the land underfoot, the land which is still the only provider, the land which we despoil at our peril.

The people young and old, male and female, Black, White, Brown, Yellow and Red who live on this land have the power to transform it from trash heap to garden, from junk car lot to playground, from a symptom of urban blight to a space of social peace.

At our Festival we "wake up" the Earth from its winter sleep and reawaken our diverse and too often divided communities to the knowledge, basic to every culture, that only human unity and harmony can guarantee survival.

In current terms the Festival serves annually to reunite the coalition of residents, artists, gardeners, social activists, educators; parents and children that successfully blocked the construction of Interstate 95 and participated in the planning and design of the mass transit and park system known as the Southwest Corridor Project.

The cultural and educational programs for children that precede each Festival are designed to bring the young to understanding and appreciation of cultural diversity, proper care of the land, equitable use of resources, and the necessity for participation in public decision-making.

The Wake Up the Earth Festival is Boston at its best: holding hands in the Unity Ceremony, having transformed the faceless crowd into the human family.

Leroy Stoddard, Director

46 Chestnut Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 • (617) 522-1259

What happened this year...

We Planned. For eight years, ever since the first Wake Up the Earth Festival in May of 1979, we had been planning the perfect celebration of the Corridor communities' survival and renewal. Completion of the mass transit and park systems would symbolize that renewal, but the rebirth we wanted to proclaim was social, even spiritual, not... transitory.

We Dreamed. In spite of the four-mile-long tear through the fabric of our communities, we were able to stitch together Black, Brown and White threads every May, and to pledge annually to work together so we wouldn't come unraveled. We dreamed of a seamless tapestry of all the colors to put on display in May of 1987, a gala Wake Up the Earth Festival stretching from Chinatown to Forest Hills. Every spring since '79 we gathered together more weavers for the masterwork.

We Urged. When we heard about the MBTA's plans for a late March opening event for the New Orange Line, we wrote to say that the date's all wrong, that March is mud and wind while May is sun and flowers. To the MDC, which was delaying the Park opening until July, we said hearken to the solar year, not the fiscal, and join us and the T around the Maypole. We reminded everyone that the transit and park systems are one in history, public process, design and function, and that they should be opened simultaneously. And behold, though mighty those Authorities be, they agreed! The government had accepted the community's sense of timing, and we were set for a happy match of generous public resources with enthusiastic and experienced grassroots initiative.

We Waited. Comforted by the knowledge that the entire Southwest Corridor Project--from conception to design to construction to land disposition to management--was shaped by community participation mandated by an official Memorandum of Understanding, we awaited word of and invitation to the meetings that would plan the opening celebration. We just knew that the officials who held up the Southwest Corridor as a model of citizen input would be most faithful to the participatory process in preparing for the opening, an event that would honor the thousands of unpaid community volunteers as well as the army of public employees, consultants, contractors and workers who built the system.

We Assumed. Since no one questioned the ability of the Wake Up the Earth Festival Coalition to organize multicultural extravaganzas out of grassroots enthusiasm, and since our commitment to the health of the Corridor community was well known, we assumed that the T would certainly want the benefit of our contacts and experience. Since the constituency of our Festival encompassed at least three of the nine Orange Line station areas, we stood ready to offer the T our services in organizing the six others and in joining them to our ready-made traditional celebration. We looked forward to a public Festival supported by public funds, and welcomed the creative freedom that sufficiency of resources would permit. Every May we had worked a miracle on a shoestring. In 1987 we would wow the City.

We Heard. Still awaiting word of a planning meeting, we heard from artists, performers, vendors and organizations long associated with our own Festival that the T and a public relations firm were contacting them about services to a celebration. These members of our Festival network were puzzled by the inquiries and wondered about the relationship between the Wake Up the Earth Festival and the Orange Line Opening. The Community Farm, host and organizing sponsor of the Festival, was conspicuously absent from the T's list of numbers to call.

We Complied. Unexpectedly the T issued a Request for Proposal, inviting public relations and events management firms to bid on the production of the official celebration. Thrust into a competition with "professionals", the Farm complied with the rules of this new game and submitted the best proposal it could assemble. Confident that no professional firm could match our grassroots network or claim closer ties to the Corridor, we proposed a grander Wake Up the Earth Festival that would both satisfy the T's criteria and remain faithful to our constituency, theme and participatory style.

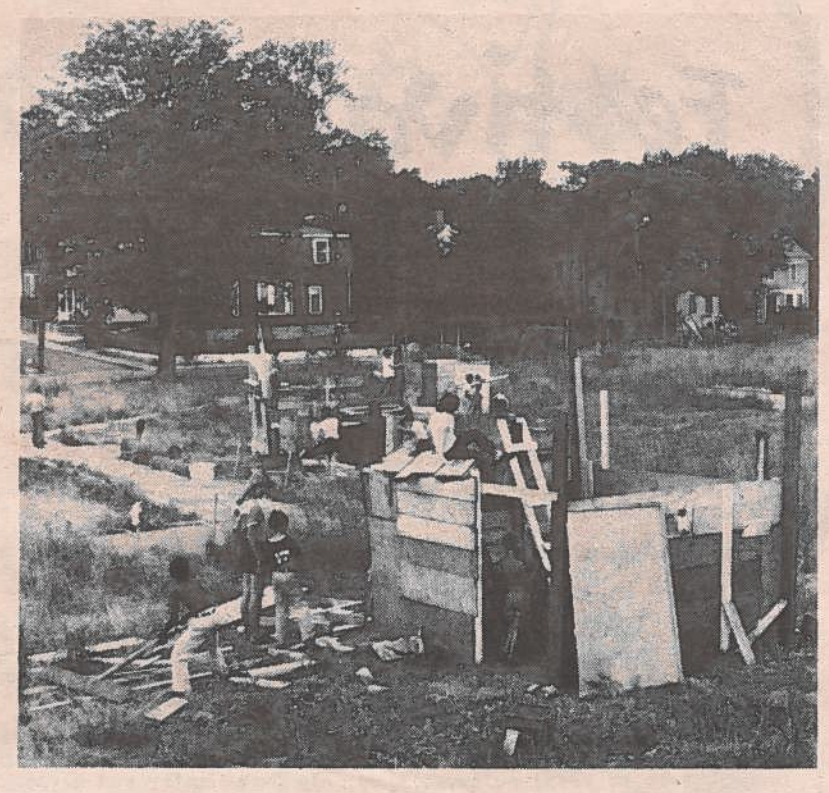
We Lost. At the close of the bidders' conference, one MBTA employee had offered the opinion that the Farm and Festival Coalition "can't handle the whole thing", but "should get a piece of the action." Asked later about this remark, her boss would say only that "she shouldn't have said that", but he would not agree that the remark called into question the purity of his repeatedly proclaimed "open and competitive" selection process. Our proposal, highly praised by the T's own Project Manager JoAnne Hughes, somehow failed to win us even a finalists' interview. We cried foul.

We Protested. At the "Southwest Corridor Summit" on March 12 we expressed through skit and satire our disappointment with the T's method of planning and executing the opening celebration. This was another in a long series of betrayals of public trust by the T. It seemed that whenever our years of volunteerism, advocacy, budget support, inconvenience and patience yielded money and jobs, certain regulations and procedures made it impossible for the T to see to it that a fair share of these jobs and contracts went to Corridor residents. We learned too late that the planning meetings for the opening celebration had been taking place every Monday for months, and that inexplicably the T had not opened this planning of a most public event to any member of the public.

We Negotiated. A meeting was arranged between representatives of the Festival Coalition, the T, and the Howard Company, the Black and woman-owned firm selected to produce the opening. We offered to organize a multicultural parade on opening day that would unite the Wake Up the Earth Festival constituency with other participants in the official opening. We expressed our disappointment with the T's contractor selection process which, even if it had been "open and competitive" at its end point, was clearly closed in the planning stage, had an unstated preference for "professional" firms over community-based organizations, and saw participation as a veneer of style rather than a process through which the public has a hand in creating the event. We made it clear that our quarrel was not with Victoria Howard, but with the T's process. Bernard Cohen of MBTA Public Affairs again defended the process and said that no decision on a parade was possible in less than three weeks.

continued on p. 15.

The Hut Project, 1979



Housing in the Corridor

by Tom O'Malley

As the picture indicates, some folks are anxious to see shelters built in the corridor. The program developed when some ambitious folks volunteered to supervise kids in a hut building program. The program was initiated by Maria Van Duirhoven, a Dutch citizen visiting Jamaica Plain for the summer. She saw the vacant land along the corridor and thought of the Adventure Playground ideas of her native Holland. So with the energy of Femke Rosenbaum, another Jamaica Plain resident, they began to organize volunteers to supervise, kids from both sides of the tracks to participate and materials to build with.

Jose and Jorge, two Venezuelan men traveling through the country, thought it was such a great idea that they stayed in town for the week to help out. Many local people thought it was a swell idea and volunteered their time, transportation and even the use of their homes. Little City Hall was helpful with police permits etc., while the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood House contributed breakfasts and lunches and ESAC provided the tools. Materials were scavenged with permission from a building site in Canton.

The 24 kids who participated broke themselves into groups of eight and were assigned one full time supervisor. The building went smoothly and friendly rivalries developed between the groups. To prevent vandalism, neighborhood people spent the night in the park. All in all it was a very refreshing experience. Instead of being involved in the destructive petty vandalism that many kids get into out of boredom, this group of kids was involved in a very postitive building program on unused Corridor land.

Femke, who is active in neighborhood affairs, especially with children, hopes to see a part of corridor parkland set aside for this type of program on a permanent basis. She also expressed her feelings that it would be great to see small structures built along the Corridor parkland. These "houses" could serve as storage sheds for maintenance tools, as well as having one or two people live in them who could protect the parkland from vandals. It may seem farfetched, but it is just such ideas that are going to improve the quality of life in Corridor communities.

from Southwest Corridor Coalition Report, September 1979

FESTIVAL VIEWS was produced by Femke & Amika

SOUTHWEST CORRIDOR COMMUNITY FARM
FINCA DE LA COMUNIDAD

MAY ¡FESTIVAL! DE MAYO

SATURDAY, MAY 5
SABADO, EL 5 DE MAYO

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
in case of rain call 522-2809

photos by Read Brugger

photo by Read Brugger

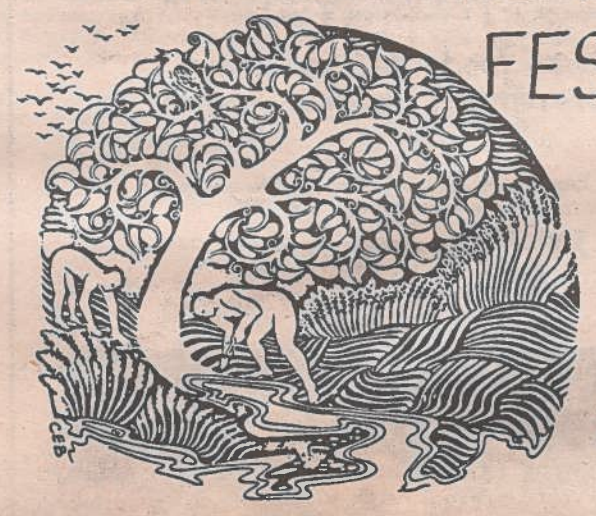
Early Years

photo by Read Brugger

PHOTO BY READ BRUGGER

JAMAICA PLAIN'S 3RD ANNUAL

WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL



SATURDAY, MAY 2, 1981
RAINDATE MAY 3

EL SÁBADO, 2 DE MAYO
LA FECHA SI LLUEVE SERÁ EL 3 DE MAYO

MUSIC · ENTERTAINMENT
GAMES · WORKSHOPS · FOOD
SEEDLINGS FOR SALE

MÚSICA · DIVERSIONES
REFRESCOS · TALLERES
PLANTAS DE VENTA · JUEGOS

photo by Jack Doherty

Wake Up The Earth!

Spring Festival for Peace in our Neighborhoods

Festival para Despertar La Tierra ~ ésta Primavera para el Paz con nuestros Vecinos

Saturday, May 1, 1982
Raindate May 2

Sabado, el 1 de Mayo
la fecha si llueve sera el 2 de Mayo

Parades 10:00 Paradas

Jamaica Plain • from the monument down Centre Street to the farm
Roxbury • from Masonic Temple · Grove Hall down Warren & Centre Streets to the farm

11:30 - 4:00 at the **SW Corridor Community Farm**
Lamartine St., J.P. ~ 2 blocks south of Centre St.

music · entertainment · food · dances · games
música · diversiones · refrescos · bailes · juegos

Sponsored by: J.P. Arts Council, Paige Academy, Oficina Hispana, J.P. Neighborhood House, & the SW Corridor Community Farm

For more information call 522-2809 para mas información

photos by Mark Hoffman

In response to concerns raised regarding this year's peace theme, we have formulated the following guidelines for group presentations during the parade and at the festival site:

1. keep spirit of building unity & community
2. affirm life, spring, peace, culture
3. promote non-violence
4. identify group without slogans
5. respect cultural, religious, & ethnic differences
6. be actively involved in cleaning up
7. do not broadcast personal political agendas with speeches, banners, or placards/posters

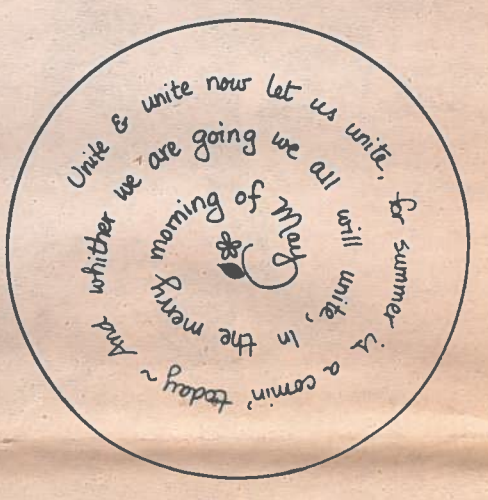
En respuesta a preocupaciones levantadas relativa a este anos tema de Paz, nosotros hemos formulado el siguiente percepto para presentaciones grupales durante la parada y en el sitio de la fiesta.

1. Mantener espiritu dè construir unidad y comunidad
2. Afirmar vida, primavera, paz, cultura
3. Promover no-violencia
4. Identificar grupo sin lemas
5. Respetar culturas, relgiones, y etnico diferentes
6. Aser activamente invueltos en limpiesa
7. No transmisionen politicas personales temario con hablares, banderas, o letrero/cartelon

THE PAIGE ACADEMY RITUAL

We are here to live and learn to open ourselves to each other and to the universe by these seven principles:

Umoja - Unity
Kujichagulia - Self Determination
Ujima - Collective work and responsibility
Ujamaa - Cooperative economics
Nia - Purpose
Kuumba - Creativity
Imani - Faith



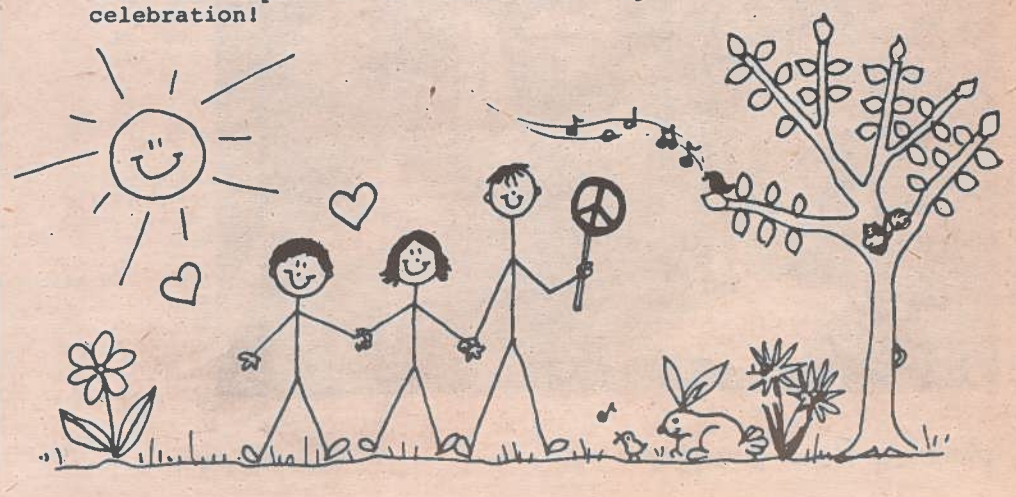
Wake Up The Earth Festival

Peace Demonstration or demonstration of peace?

Several people and organizations have expressed a concern that the 1982 Wake Up The Earth Festival could develop into a political protest "Peace Demonstration". This annual Spring Festival has been and remains a unique experience of people coming together to celebrate life. In doing so, we work together and share ancient traditions of our diverse communities, cultures, and races - this, in itself, is a "demonstration of peace".

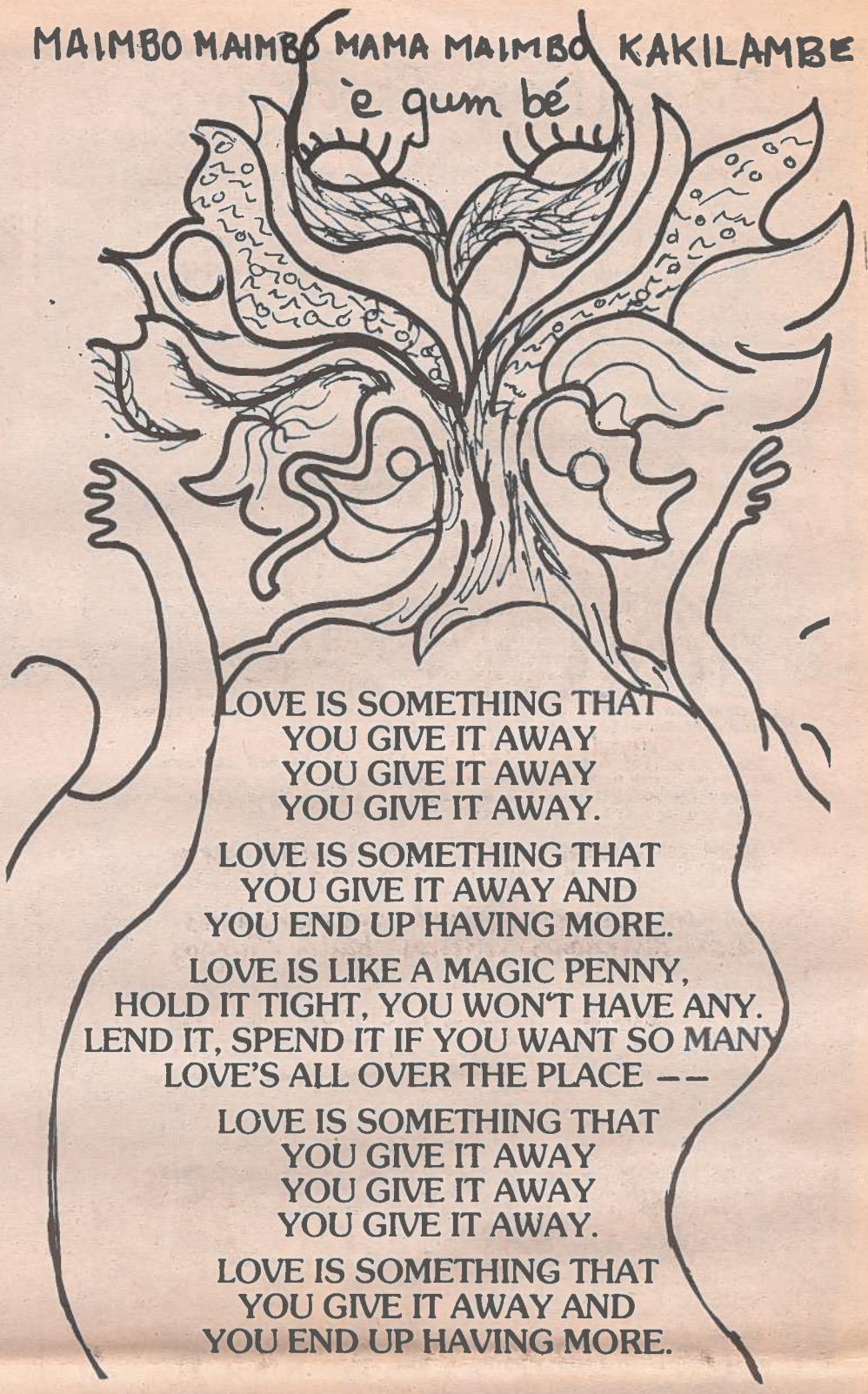
Our "This Spring for Peace" theme is a recognition of the spirit that has brought us together in past years. A group of Buddhist monks, who are on a march around the world for peace, has been invited to join us because the spirit of their message is so in tune with what we're trying to do in a small way within our own community. If we, in our coming together, can show that, despite our natural suspicions and fears of one another's differences, we can work together to LIVE together - then THAT is an expression of living in peace.

In order for our goals of mutual understanding and cooperation to be reached, we need the participation and involvement of ALL. The Wake Up The Earth Festival will be what those who participate make it. Please come to the general planning meeting on Sunday, March 28th, from 2-5 p.m. at 11 Clive St., J.P. (522-2809). If you have concerns about the direction in which we are going, this is your opportunity to express, discuss, and resolve them. Come and be part of the decision-making! Make this YOUR celebration!



"Hello" Song

English	French	Spanish
Hello! How are you? I am fine. Thank you!	Bon jour! Comon sa va? Tray bien, Merci!	Ola! Como sta? Moy bien, Gracias!
Italian	**Swahili**	**German**
Ciao! Come stai? Molto bene, Grazie!	Jambo! Habari gani? Mzuri sana, Asante!	Guten tag! Vee gayts? Es gayt mir gut, Danke!
Russian		
Straz-vee! Kak tee pozjevaesh? Ochen horashow, Spaceebo!		


MAIMBO MAIMBO MAMA MAIMBO KAKILAMBE
è gum bé
LOVE IS SOMETHING THAT
YOU GIVE IT AWAY
YOU GIVE IT AWAY
YOU GIVE IT AWAY.
LOVE IS SOMETHING THAT
YOU GIVE IT AWAY AND
YOU END UP HAVING MORE.
LOVE IS LIKE A MAGIC PENNY,
HOLD IT TIGHT, YOU WON'T HAVE ANY.
LEND IT, SPEND IT IF YOU WANT SO MANY
LOVE'S ALL OVER THE PLACE --
LOVE IS SOMETHING THAT
YOU GIVE IT AWAY
YOU GIVE IT AWAY
YOU GIVE IT AWAY.
LOVE IS SOMETHING THAT
YOU GIVE IT AWAY AND
YOU END UP HAVING MORE.

Education Programs

1979: First "Wake Up the Earth" Festival. A volunteer-staffed "hut project" brought neighborhood children to vacant MBTA-owned land to build playstructures with scavenged building materials. A children's version of the vacant land re-use efforts by adults that developed the Community Farm.

1980: Gardening classes in greenhouse, co-sponsored by the Agassiz Community School Senior Self-Sufficiency Project, for local elders.

Presentations and slideshows of "Community Gardening in the City" at local libraries.

Solar and appropriate technology demonstrations at Festival.

Bi-lingual horticultural education program. Coordinator worked with pre- and after-school programs, Alianza Hispana, the JP Senior Team, local youth and Farm gardeners. She wrote articles on lead contamination, fall crops, season extension and nutrition for local Spanish and English language newspapers and ran Saturday workshops.

Farm tours for the Urban Solar Energy Association, Chinese scientists, and many other individuals and groups. Slide shows, presentations and technical assistance to the Roxbury Multi-Service Center, the Jamaica Plain APAC, and gardeners.

1981: Solar greenhouse workshops, funded by the Executive Office of Communities and Development. Garden space and instruction provided to the Agassiz Seniors and students, the JP Neighborhood House, the fourth grade class of Miss Johnson at the JFK School in JP, and groups from the Center for Blind Children and the Cambridge Inner-City DayCamp.

Demonstration herb and amaranth plots maintained at Farm.

1982: Speeches to the American Community Gardening Association and New England Solar Energy Association conferences.

Garden space and instruction to handicapped adults from the Dimock Community Health Center's Project LEAP. Kennedy School classes. Weekly plant and pest clinics by Extension agent.

Assistance to youth gardening at Bromley-Heath, Oficina Hispana and Hennigan Community School.

1983: Development of Beecher Street Community Park with crew of local teens who learned land reclamation skills and recreation programming.

"Adopt-a-Lot" project reclaimed vacant lots with kid-power. Sites near schools in Roxbury, Mission Hill and Jamaica Plain were cleared of trash, tilled, planted and decorated with signs and totem poles. Five adult educators made the rounds of the schools and lots, teaching poetry, painting, dance and song along with horticulture and recycling of resources. Classes produced newsletters and prepared performances for the Festival

Urban agriculture conferences co-sponsored by Farm and the Mass. Department of Food and Agriculture, Suffolk County Conservation District, and Cooperative Extension Service.

Pre-Festival Workshops at Kennedy, Tobin and Hale schools. Poetry, dance, song, banner-making and environmental studies. Continued during April vacation week at libraries and community centers.

Summer recreation program at the Beecher Park. A neighborhood "arts and the natural environment" program, the Learning Adventure, begun at Beecher Park.

1984: Pre-Festival Workshops repeated. Continued after Festival to limit of funds.

Art-in-the-Park at Beecher Park employed a local sculptor/painter for intensive summer-long work with 20 local children. He completed a large wood sculpture with help from the kids; work installed in the Park.

Gardening-with-children projects at the Agassiz and Curley Schools and at the 60 Paul Gore Street Garden in JP.

The Learning Adventure expanded to an environmental science program involving five classes, many parents and most teachers at the James Curley School. A resource center created.

1985: Learning Adventure continued.

Art-in-the-Park at the Beecher Park employs four artists to teach pottery, painting, theatre and dance as a "Celebration of the Natural World." Performance at fund-raiser.

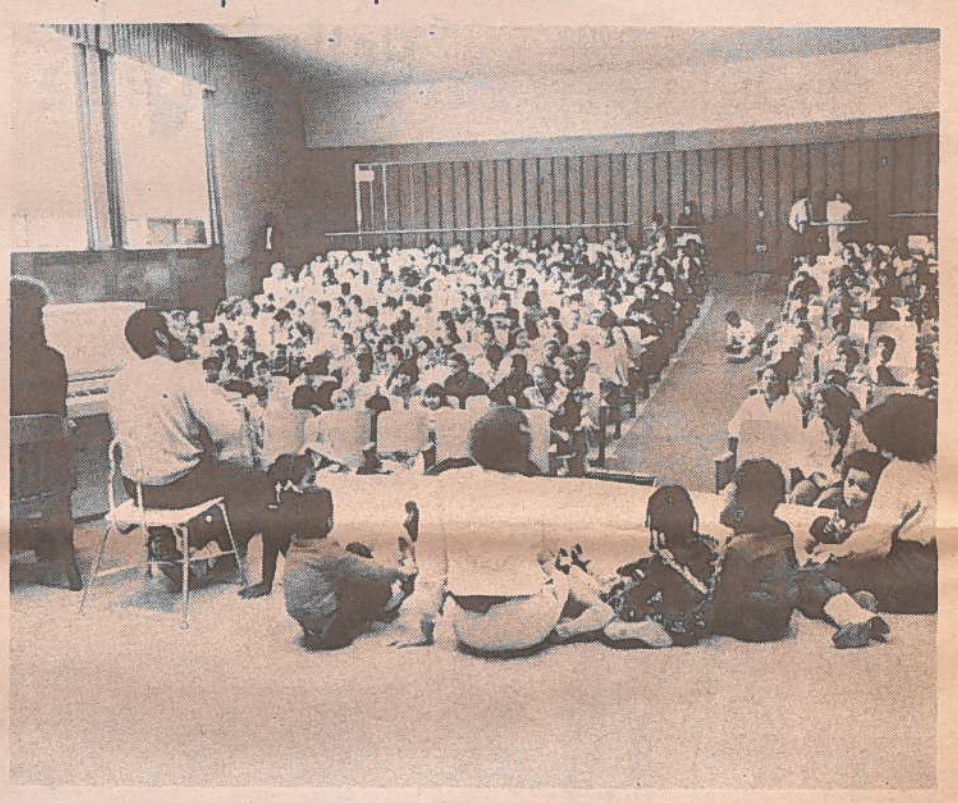
Pre-Festival Workshops at the First Church and Bromley Hall.

1986: Art-in-the-Park at Beecher Park.

Boston Youth Conservation Corps reclaims five sites.

Pre-Festival Workshops throughout March and April at Connolly Library and Bromley Hall. Spanish dance, costume-making and story-telling added to usual fare. Impressive performances by children and instructors at Festival.

4th graders gardening at the Farm



Paige Academy performing at local public school

Deama Battle teaching KAKILAMBE BALLET at the J.P. Neighborhood House

Afterschool European dance class

photos by Read Brugger

EDUCATION

· I hear....& I forget
  I see.....& I remember
  I do.....& I understand

Our educational staff will be available to schools, afterschool programs and community groups to:
.help prepare people for the event (songs, dances, banners, posters)
.teach about the LAND (nature, culture, ecology) using "adopted lots"

EDUCACION

Oigo... Olvido
Veo....Recuerdo
Hago... y Entiendo

Nuestros instructores educacionales estarán disponibles para trabajar con grupos escolares, guarderías de niños y otros grupos comunitarios para:
.ayudar a la gente a participar del evento con:canciones, danzas y avisos.
.ensenar sobre la naturaleza, cultura y ecología de la TIERRA, usando los lotes "adoptados"

January 13, 1983

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

The entire John F. Kennedy School community enthusiastically supports the Wake Up The Earth Festival Education Program.

We have been associated with the Festival sponsors for the past two years. The Kennedy School hopes to actively participate in the program again this year because valuable concepts and ideals of cross-cultural and inter-community cooperation are fostered.

We believe that the Festival is worthy of being funded, and hope our students will again have the opportunity of learning by doing.

Sincerely,

Donald T. DeGrandis

Donald T. DeGrandis
Principal

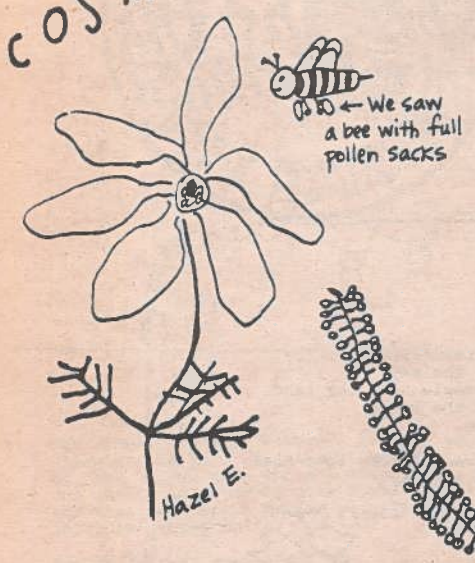
Photo by Chris Lovett

Wild life in J.P.

On Monday, August 16th we met at the empty lot to plan what we want to grow. Then we went to the abandoned lot and community garden on Beecher Street with Barbara and Karen. At the garden we saw all the flowers. We saw all the vegetables. We ate some strawberries in an abandoned garden. They were not ripe yet but they were delicious. We were looking at the cabbage but we can't eat the cabbage because somebody is growing it for their food. They felt soft and smelled good. We also looked at a compost heap because we need to make one on our lot. Karen had a pitchfork to turn over the compost. There were all kinds of stems and she picked up the stems with the pitchfork and underneath it was rotten. There was dirt at the bottom of the pile and lots of fat worms. We saw wildflowers and worms and all sorts of bugs at the lot. Laura and I found a big sunflower and we ate some of the seeds. We also ate some fennel seeds and rye seeds and a kind of leaf that's good if you have a tummy-ache. We had fun at the lot. When we came back to Barbara's house we drew pictures.

Lindajean Barkas

COSMOS



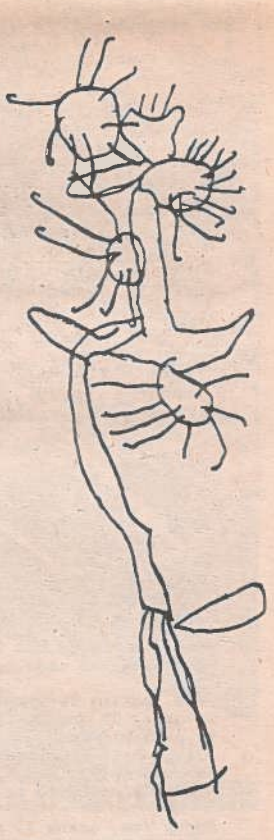
Tanya

Roan

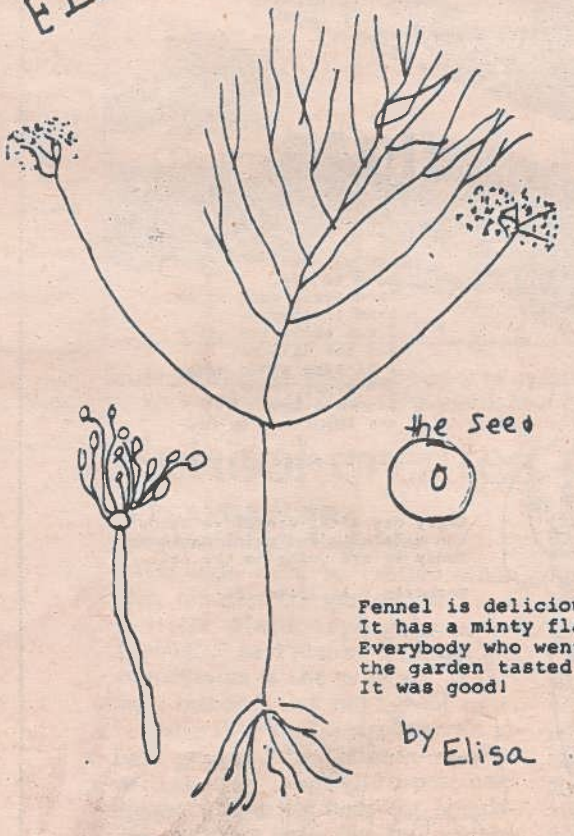
BURDOCK

They are like a round ball, and flat sort of on the bottom. It's green and on the top it's purple. The sticky things have little hooks at the end to grab on fur to spread the seeds around.

Joo St



FENNEL



Fennel is delicious! It has a minty flavor. Everybody who went to the garden tasted it. It was good!

by Elisa

I like the flowers there. The sun-flower ones are big and we ate the seeds. They weren't ripe but they tasted good anyway. I found about 5 strawberries and ate them. They were sweet and sour.

Laura

from the Learning Adventure's Neighborhood News

FESTIVAL news

John F. Kennedy School, May 1983

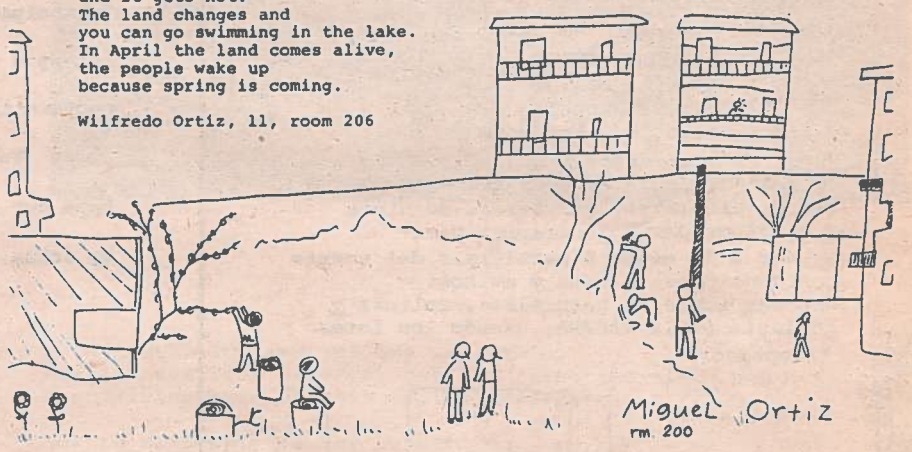
Wake Up The Earth!

The land is important
because without it
we wouldn't be alive
at this moment!

Tomás González, 12, room 107

In April apples grow,
birds come out
and it gets hot.
The land changes and
you can go swimming in the lake.
In April the land comes alive,
the people wake up
because spring is coming.

Wilfredo Ortiz, 11, room 206



Dear Parents & Friends & Neighbors,

The children at the John F. Kennedy School have "adopted" the empty lot on Armstrong Street. They have spent much time during and after school cleaning, gardening, studying nature, and beautifying this neglected piece of land. We of the WAKE UP THE EARTH Festival Education Staff would like to share this experience with you through the children's own words and pictures.

We also hope that you will GET INVOLVED with helping to continue caring for the land. One branch of the J.P. Festival Parade will be starting at the Armstrong Lot/ (Saturday, May 7th, 10 a.m.) and we look forward to seeing you there!

Amica Barbara Femke

When I went to the Armstrong Street lot I discovered that nature is more beautiful than I thought. What I did was I painted a banner and me and my friend Tony planted a garden. It was fun. I did one more thing. I dug for worms. It was so much fun until we had to leave and back to the same old drawing board.

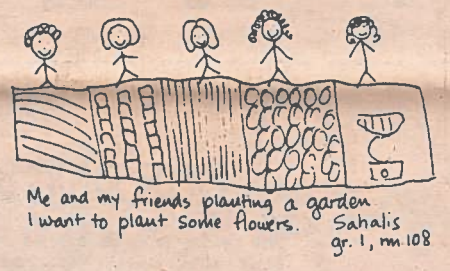
Kathryn Stratton, grade 4, room 207

I love to live in the land.
I love to smell apricots.
The daisies are yellow
and very beautiful.

Linda Grieshuber, 8, room 105

Land is peace and quiet.
People grow lettuce and
tomatoes in the land.
People build houses
on top of the land.
The land is real big.
Trees grow in the land,
and they have apples and lemons.
The land is music.

Edgardo, 10, room 107



Spring -
Yellow dandelions bloom
Like sunshine in the grass.

Jameluh Washington, room 208

My red rose grows
More beautiful
Every day.

Hattie Smith, room 208

Big tall trees
Flowers blowing in the breeze
Spring.

Justin Stratton, room 208

SPRING ON THE LAND

Food is growing in the ground
Trees are growing new leaves
The grass is growing
It feels soft and smooth and tickly

I see beautiful flowers in the grass
Tulips, jonquils and daisies

I like running in the garden
playing Indian in my backyard
swinging in the park
jogging around the block
singing in the rain
& going out barefoot!

1st grade group poem, room 203

We went to the empty lot. We did painting for the totem pole and we dug holes in the ground to plant trees. We saw worms and made homes for them.

I am looking forward to the festival on Saturday on May 7, 1983. There is going to probably be a greased pole. There is going to be a parade. There are going to be people riding bikes and dancers and it's going to be fun!

Joyce Yee, grade 4, room 207

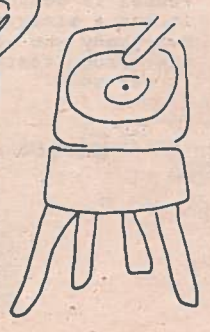
LOVE

Land is love.
Land is sea.
Land feels good to me.
Land is where
I can smell the air
and the daisies.
I'll take a nap under
the apple trees.
Land and love
are important to me.

Marci George, 9, room 103

Every day after school we dance in the cafeteria and paint masks too. Today we are going to the lot.

Norberto V.A., room 206

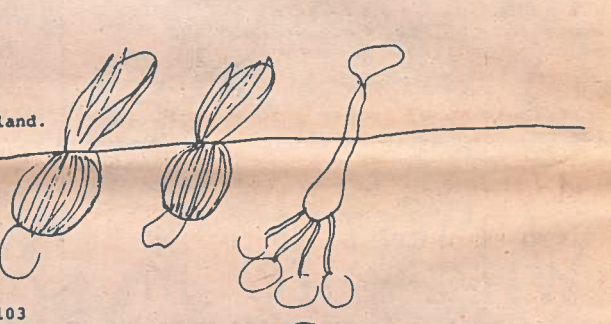


A POEM ABOUT THE EARTH

by the students of room 205 - Angel, Carmen, Edgardo, Grisela, Judith, Julio, Wilfredo & Ms. Blackman

We love the earth
It feels so good to walk on
It's wet underneath,
but dry outside
Spring is here, and
Summer is almost here too

Nos gusta la tierra
Se siente tan bien al pisarla
esta mojado por abajo
y seco por arriba,
ya llego la Primavera, y
ya Pronto llegara el verano tambien.



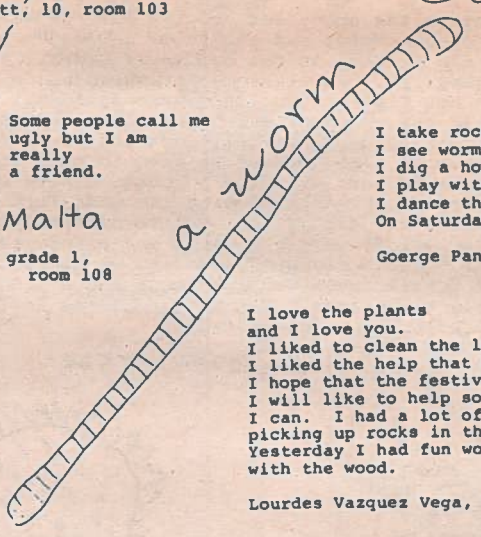
Land is important
because we live on the land.
We love the land.
Our land is important
because people are born
on the land.
Animals were sent here,
the first people here
were Indians -
We should be glad
we have the land!!!

Alexis Wyatt, 10, room 103

Some people call me
ugly but I am
really
a friend.

Malta

grade 1,
room 108

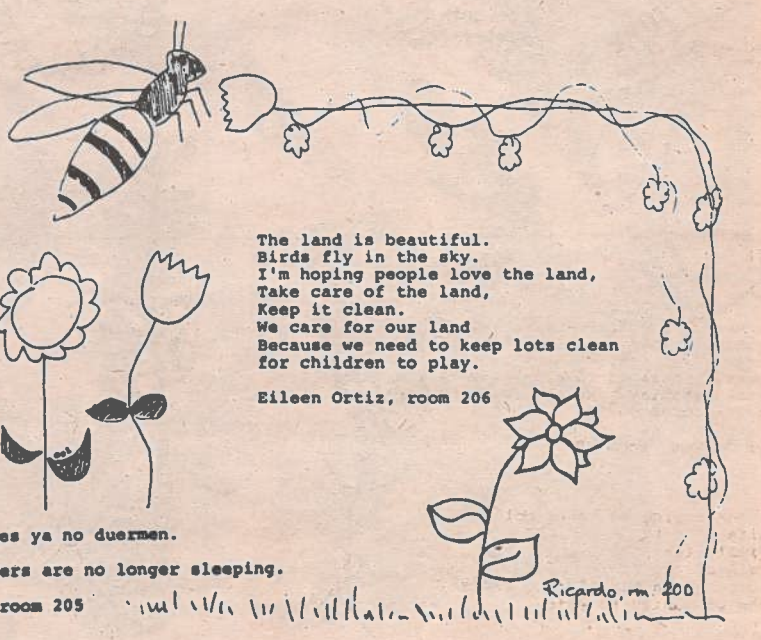


I take rocks.
I see worms.
I dig a hole to plant trees.
I play with boys and girls.
I dance the merengue.
On Saturday I want to dance again.

Goerge Pana, room 202

I love the plants
and I love you.
I liked to clean the lot.
I liked the help that all you gave us.
I hope that the festival goes well.
I will like to help some more in any way
I can. I had a lot of fun cleaning,
picking up rocks in the lot.
Yesterday I had fun working in the library
with the wood.

Lourdes Vazquez Vega, 2nd grade, room 201



The land is beautiful.
Birds fly in the sky.
I'm hoping people love the land,
Take care of the land,
Keep it clean.
We care for our land
Because we need to keep lots clean
for children to play.

Eileen Ortiz, room 206

Las flores ya no duermen.

The flowers are no longer sleeping.

Carmen, room 205

We have been looking for the
living things on the lot.
We found flowers, trees, grass,
worms, bugs and birds too.
But some things are hard to find.

Rickey

The land is important because
there are so many things
so beautiful.
You can grow vegetables
and some flowers in the garden:
they are a part of the land
and nature.

Iris Diaz, 12, room 206

When I went to the lot I had fun. At first we sang and then we played. Afterwards I helped clean up the lot. And I looked for earthworms and I found them. I put some in my hand. At first I was scared. Then when I saw that it didn't bite I wasn't scared any more. After I finished playing with the worms I went to paint flowers. I painted the clouds too. I really did have a lot of fun. Also I met a singer named Paula. She is nice and she is my friend.

WAKE UP THE EARTH!

Deslene Jeffers Samuels

Alex found a worm.
I found an animal
that did a ball itself
when it was afraid.

Wesley
grade 1, rm. 108

I like bees.
I saw a bee walking slow
because it was cold.
Their noses are on top
of their antennae.

Mikie, Room 200

Marlen, Kindergarten, rm 002

Cleaning + hauling

digging and raking

planting + watering

sawing and nailing

working on the earth

Trabajando en la tierra

gracias a la vida

♥ Baru

Maribel, rm. 108

Delf, K, rm 001

The sun makes me happy
When I wake up
After lots of rain.

Manuel Pineiro, room 208

I went to the empty lot with my class. We sang a song in a circle. Then some of the class went to get tools so they could dig holes to plant some trees. And some of them painted pictures like butterflies and a trash can that said "DON'T LITTER" or "PITCH IN". And some of the class were looking for earthworms and bugs. Some of the kids were playing. Some were painting the earthworms.

Alenda Williams, grade 4, room 207

On land you can smell daisies
in the air.
There are other things
you can smell on land.
Land is part of the earth.
Dirt also helps land,
it helps land by loosening
it for daisies, roses
and other flowers.

Larry C. Yee, 8, room 103

Maribel, rm 101

This is the boy who
was digging a hole
for the totem pole.

A boy putting some worm
in the cup.

Angel
1st grade, rm. 108

Adopt a Lot

"THE EARTH BELONGS TO THOSE WHO WORK IT."

We are encouraging people to identify an empty lot in their neighborhood and to start organizing neighbors to:

* work the land and/or
* contribute money to pay a supervisor for children to take care of the land.

Adopte un loto vacío

"LA TIERRA PERTENECE A LOS QUE TRABAJAN."

Invitamos a todas las personas a identificar un lote vacío en su vecindario y a organizar voluntarios para:

* cultivar la tierra y/o
* contribuir con fondos para pagar una persona que coordine los trabajos voluntarios de varios ninos.

Learning about land firsthand

From dump to playground

By Marya Dantzer-Rosenthal
Special to The Globe

An elementary school class gathered on a May morning in an abandoned Jamaica Plain lot where two triple-decker houses, burned and razed no one could remember when, had given way to a neighborhood dump.

But for students from the nearby John F. Kennedy School, the lot they had cleared, raked, discovered worms on, and landscaped with yew cuttings had become an environmental education laboratory – a rare place, in a densely built neighborhood, to learn about land.

Once or twice a week for four weeks during April and May, Kennedy School students in grades kindergarten through 5 spent an hour of class time rehabilitating the Armstrong street site, as part of a community-sponsored program designed to promote appreciation of open space. In-school and after-school activities included workshops on creative writing, painting and banner making, woodworking and multicultural song and dance – all centered on the theme, "the land."

The program was sponsored by neighborhood organizers of the five-year-old "Wake Up the Earth Festival," held annually at the Southwest Corridor Community Farm on Lamartine street in Jamaica Plain and taking place this year in May. Funding for the school program came from a combination of corporate and private contributions.

It took a couple of trips with a dump truck loaned by the community farm just to clear the Armstrong street lot of trash.

PLAYGROUND, Page A54

Marya Dantzer-Rosenthal is a freelance writer who lives in Jamaica Plain.

Students from the Kennedy School in Jamaica Plain clear a vacant lot on Armstrong Street to make the "Kennedy School Playground." PHOTO BY READ D. BRUGGER

School creates playground

■ **PLAYGROUND**

Continued from Page A53

"The kids were so excited when they removed the garbage and saw a little plant trying to come through," said Femke Rosenbaum, coordinator of the program. A former teacher and mother of four.

Once they had cleared the lot to bare ground, the children worked with shovels, rakes and a post-hole digger, preparing beds for shrubs and a deep hole for the whole-school project, a colorful totem pole. "The shovel is the most popular single tool here," observed Baru Adler, one of the five teachers hired for the program. "A lot of these holes are just for the fun of digging – a lot of city kids don't get to do that."

The students themselves were reluctant to stop working long enough to comment on the program. Questioned about the before-and-after look of the lot, most echoed first-grader Bwanda Albert: "It was dirty. Now it's beautiful."

The Boston Sunday Globe 6·5·83

Our school, John F. Kennedy, is cleaning the lot. I think it would be nice if you keep the lot clean and neat. So we could grow flowers and kids can play. We are painting an Indian totem pole.

Evelyn Torres, room 206

I've been trying to bring color and life into the empty lot – especially through a totem pole that all of the children participated in creating to leave for the community to enjoy.

Edna CRENSHAW

6th Annual

WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL

Saturday
May 5, 1984
Raindate: Sunday, May 6th

12-4 at the SW Corridor Community Farm
Lamartine & Hoffman Sts., Jamaica Plain

Parades 10 a.m. Gathering at the Monument in J.P. & at Parker Hill Library in Mission Hill...
down Centre St. to the Farm

Featuring:

Jim Scott of the Paul Winter Consort
Loose Caboose Band, the Pabon Brothers, Girlillas
New Dimention Steel Drum Band, Dutch Treat
Bill Walsh & Will Eger, Paige Academy, Samm Bennett
Les Miserables Brass Band
Break Dancing & Jazz Ballet

música · dancing · diversiones multicutural · games · refrescos · seedlings for sale
Sponsored by Boston Globe Foundation, JP Arts Council, Oficina Hispana, & many more!

photo by Mark Hoffman

LOOK AROUND YOU and you see the world.
Not an idealized version, but the flesh-and-blood human family, harmonizing here on this well worked patch of Earth.

How to elaborate on our beauty?
On the individual colors of our interwoven strands?
On the syncopation of the thousand distinct voices?

Yes, in our daily lives we get tired sometimes of each other's styles and looks and ways. Like family members and old friends we do argue and turn our backs on each other.

But ah, how we like the look of our Family today.
We are people of the party, of the fiesta.
We don't do this often enough, do we?
Like sisters or brothers or old lovers kept apart by miles or years, we are drunk on the sweetness of our reunion and forced to take a hard look at the separate, private lives we have fallen into.

This is the real thing!
Life on Earth now!
Don't wait for the movie!

Leroy Stoddard

photos by Read Brugger

Every year on the first Saturday in May, people of Jamaica Plain and surrounding communities come together to "Wake Up the Earth".

BRINGING JOY AND A BRANCH OF MAY, the day starts with a parade down Centre Street, people gathering at the Monument in J.P. by 10am. Participants sing, dance, make music, and give out flowers along the way.

"UNITE AND UNITE, NOW LET US UNITE!"

Coming together at noontime at the SW Corridor Community Farm on Lamartine Street, we share old and new rituals, dances and songs from our diverse cultures. Children's games and activities, ethnic foods, live performances, sales of seedlings and Festival T-shirts make this a day of joyous celebration for the whole community.

Parada y Festival

Cada año, el primer sábado de Mayo un grupo de personas de Jamaica Plain y otras comunidades se unen para despertar la tierra.

CON ALEGRIA Y CON UN BOUQUET DE MAYO, el dia empieza con la parada enfrente al monumento de Centre Street a las 10:00am. Los participantes caminan cantando, danzando, ejecutando música, y repartiendo flores todo el camino.

UNIDOS Y UNIDOS, UNAMOSNO!

Reunámosno al mediodía en la huerta de la calle Lamartine. Compartiremos rituales nuevos y viejos, danzas y costumbres de nuestra diversa cultura. Juegos y actividades para niños, comidas típicas, entretenimiento en vivo, ventas de plantas para celebrar y gozar todos los asistentes.

photo by Jack Doherty

photo by Read Brugger

W·A·K·E · U·P T·H·E · E·A·R·T·H

7th Annual FESTIVAL 1985 MAY 4TH SATURDAY

*Rundate: May 5th

THIS YEAR CELEBRATING

COMMUNITY COOPERATION!

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS FOR A GALA

10 A.M. PARADE DOWN CENTRE ST.
FROM THE MONUMENT IN J.P. & THE PARKER HILL LIBRARY ON MISSION HILL...

GATHERING TOGETHER AT THE

12-5 P.M. SW CORRIDOR COMMUNITY FARM
LAMARTINE & HOFFMAN STS., J.P.

TO SHARE MUSIC, DANCE, CRAFTS, GAMES & FOOD FROM OUR MULTICULTURAL TRADITIONS!

SPONSORED BY JP ARTS COUNCIL, JP NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, OFICINA HISPANA, PAIGE ACADEMY, MASCO & MANY OTHERS!

wake up the earth FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS

during

APRIL VACATION WEEK

Learn old & new rituals, songs & dances...

Make flags, posters, musical instruments, flowers & branches of May - create a dragon!

JOIN THE PARADE!

Free! at the following Boston Public Libraries:

Apr.	22	23	24	25	
2-4:30 p.m.	✿	✿	✿	✿	Connolly Branch 433 Centre St., J.P. 522-1960
2-4:30 p.m.		✿		✿	J.P. Branch 12 Sedgwick St., J.P. 524-2053
10:30 am-1 pm	✿	✿		✿	Parker Hill Branch 1497 Tremont St., M.H. 427-3820

Sponsored by: Boston Public Library & the Friends of the Libraries, J.P. Arts Council, Mission Possible, SW Corridor Community Farm, J.P. Neighborhood House & many others...

Connie Barbour,
creator of those beautiful
Wake Up the Earth Tshirts!

8th annual

Wake Up The Earth Festival

Felita Oyola y su grupo

Saturday · May 3, 1986

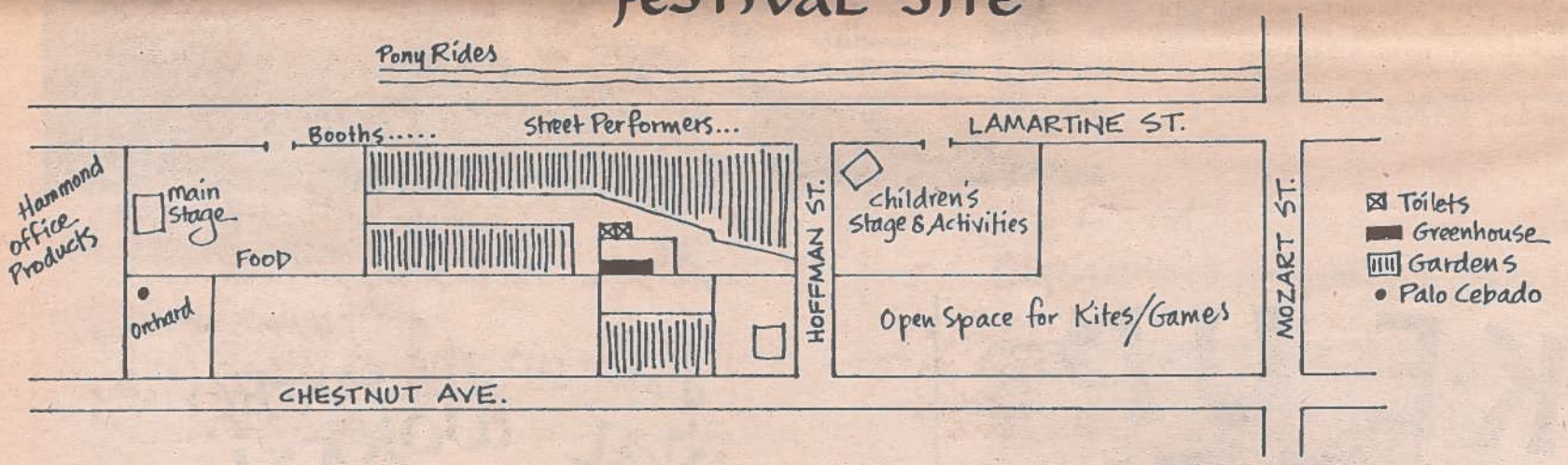
THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND...

This land is your land, this land is my land,
From Chestnut Avenue to Lamartine,

1. With a little playground, where we come together,
2. With community gardens, where we grow together,
3. With affordable housing, that we build together,

This land is here for you and me!

Festival Site



Entertainment

12:00 Mayor's Presentation to the Massachusetts National Guard

12:15 Dumela Greeting Dance with Mareba Jos

12:30 Tapping Into Spring with Rosalba Solis & Friends

12:55 Hispanic Dance with Felita Oyola

1:10 African Drumming with Nuhrudafin Abena

1:30 The M.C. All Stars

1:55 Fiddle Music with the Poodles

2:30 Palo Cebado (Greased Pole contest)

2:35 Andy Holiner & the Firehouse Band

3:20 International Beat with the Alida Rohr Band

4:00 Salsa with Heriberto y su Orchestra Saoco

5:00 Paradise Steel Drum Band

5:45 The Danny Band

Join the WAKE UP THE EARTH CONCERT, 8-11pm at the J.P. Junction Coffeehouse, 85 Seaverns Avenue. Enjoy 10 diverse acoustic performances for only $3 - proceeds to benefit the Festival.

Children's Activities

ON THE STAGE

1:00 Wake Up the Earth Festival Rituals

1:30 Kakilambe Ballet with Noel Staples & the Heritage Dance Group

1:45 Songs from N.I.C.E. Day Care

2:00 Waking Up the Earth with Rosalba Solis & Dolle Mallare

2:30 4H Double Dutch Jumprope Exhibition

3:00 Hispanic Dances with Blanca Burgos & the Heritage Dance Group

ON THE STREET

2:30 Ninots Puppet Theater

3:30 Chris Bell - Pantomime

IN THE TIPI at 2:15 and 4:00

Dev Luthra - Storyteller from Temenos

ALL AROUND

* Blowing bubbles
* Face painting
* Chalk drawing
* Jumping rope
* Painting murals
* Making plaster masks
* Recycle Ribbons & stuff...
* Tie-dying
* Planting seeds
* Playing games
* Flying kites

ESPECIALLY FOR TODDLERS

A safe space with sandpile, climbing structures, and the Urban Edge Playhouse!

Wake Up The Earth Draws Largest-Ever Crowd

by Chris Lovett

When the merengue playing from a van said, "Dance In The Street," Ilene Jaffe picked up a twenty-foot dryer cord and did just that.

At one end was a gigantic wall plug. At the other end was a 1966 Volkswagen van draped in plastic and disguised as a toaster. Two slices of bread, made of wall panelling, popped from the roof.

It was called, "A Toast To Spring."

And, because it was that time of year, Tom Brouillette's thoughts turned from his job as a mover to building a float.

"I knew I wanted to make a float, but I didn't know what it would be," said Brouillette. "Then someone said they wanted to make a toaster."

Brouilette, who lives in Jamaica Plain, added one more touch from a childhood memory of the Gladiolus Festival in Momence, Illinois. He got a friend to bake 120 miniature loaves of bread to toss out, just like the local bakery back in Momence.

On Saturday, for the eighth straight year, the people of Jamaica Plain and friends from as far as Maine and New York, took their "Wake Up The Earth" parade down Centre St.

An estimated 1,400 people, the largest turnout so far, went the way from the Monument to the Southwest Corridor Community Farm. Whether they danced, marched or comfortably rode, little was what it seemed on any other day.

Barbara Johnson, who usually works as a cashier at a drugstore, was a self-made "General Borshaunt." Above her torso of French cheese, she wore a mouse's head of papier mache.

Her brother Ian Johnson, 8, was a cross between a paperboy and a jackass. Long black ears and a springy tail stuck out from his white gown and mortarboard. From his perfectly round foam rubber snout hung a lengthy tongue of shiny red satin.

"The true sort of life," he observed, "is outrageous."

His sister Aziza, 5, wore red almost all over, except for thick black braids and a face full of warpaint.

"I'm an Indian," she announced. "I'm hunting for cowboys and cats."

Jeannette Tremblay, ordinarily a preschool teacher, came as a clown. She wore a brown suit and cap and deep red cheeks. Her dog, Gus Gus, a 12-year-old part beagle, wore a curtain tie on his head and a floppy necktie about his collar.

"He's a clown," said Tremblay. "He's my assistant."

Mother Earth was a puppet with a papier mache face and hands of cardboard. She wore what Mike Wold called a "regular old dress." Wold, who lives in Jamaica Plain, carried the puppet, bobbing it almost twenty feet into the air.

"I'm a word-processor," said Wold. "Sometimes I occupy buildings for the Pledge of Resistance."

Jack McKiernan, a puppeteer down from Brattleboro, Vermont, played the same role Saturday. His puppet was a brown bird tall enough to announce spring right into second-story windows.

Dan Sweetland, a teacher who recently moved to Jamaica Plain, unexpectedly found himself hoisting a puppet bird that looked like a cardinal.

"I just came and got recruited," said Sweetland.

"I really like the community," he said, "and it's a great way to bring people together."

The first "Wake Up the Earth" festival in 1979 was meant to rally support for the Community Farm and other projects, according to Femke Rosenbaum, a Jamaica Plain Arts Council member and one of the founders of the event.

This year's festival tried to rally support for making the Farm permanent and for using open land near the Southwest Corridor to provide affordable housing and job training. In the parade, that agenda took the form of a house-and-garden float jointly sponsored by the Farm, Oficina Hispana, Hammond Office Supply and Urban Edge, a community-based housing agency.

"There are definitely people who see it as a party," said Rosenbaum, "but there are those who see it as more, hopefully to be aware of the land and what we're doing with it."

This year was the first time the MDC joined neighborhood groups in sponsoring the festival. The agency provided chairs, tables and pony rides, while the National Guard brought in soil for gardeners at the Community Farm.

The festival's roots in "old agrarian rituals," said Rosenbaum, also make it a "very spiritual thing."

"It's the affirmative nature of this festival and the affirmation of life, which is what spring is," she said. "That idea caught on and it was something that people wanted to be part of."

But, while an eight-footed dragon danced a merengue between trolley tracks and a mariachi band strummed and fiddled, others seemed content to watch.

"It's colorful. We need a little color and excitement," said Eddie O'Niel, 85, who stood and watched on Centre St. In his right hand, he held an iris he got from a girl in the parade.

"There's more women than men," he complained. "Where the hell's all the men?"

Jimmy Jackson watched when the bus he was driving had to pause for the parade around Mozart St. There were irises and daisies on his dashboard.

"It's great to have a parade," said Jackson. "I wish I wasn't working, I'd be in it myself."

Mary Petruzelli, 65, watched from her open window on Chestnut Ave. She was just back from the hospital and she wore a white shawl made by her 96-year-old mother. Beside her in the window were irises and daisies

"I watch it every year," said Petruzelli. "But it's too nice to miss."

J.P. Citizen
May 8, 1986

Newspaper Coverage

Debbie Botus plays steel drums at yesterday's Wake Up the Earth Festival in Jamaica Plain.

from the Boston Sunday Globe • May 5, 1985

Only a few dozen show up to take part in Earth Day

May 5, 1985

Dear Editor:

I hope the Globe's coverage of Jamaica Plain's Wake Up The Earth Spring Festival is not indicative of your assessment of the significance of free, spirited, and harmonious multiracial cultural events in Boston.

Your photographer must have stood on his head while wearing a poncho to produce a photo of a lone steel drummer with no audience at an event where at least one thousand people of diverse ages and races enjoyed the many vendors, information tables, performers, and each others company.

Your writer apparently chose to cover Earth Day, attended by a dozen, and to ignore our Festival, its parade, and the ebulliently positive message it offers the Southwest Corridor neighborhoods.

This event has been generously supported by the Globe Foundation, for which we are grateful; yet your coverage of it was a disservice to racial harmony, local arts, and to spring itself. Please, wake up the Globe!

Sincerely,

Peter B. Rosenbaum

The next year.....

These stilt-mounted marchers take part in the eighth annual Wake Up the Earth Festival in Jamaica Plain yesterday. About 1,000 people joined to welcome spring with a parade and festival of song, dance and food. GLOBE STAFF PHOTO BY GEORGE FISZER

'Corridor' residents celebrate spring

By Ethan Bronner
Globe Staff

In a spirited tribute to urban gardening, ethnic harmony and grassroots power, about 1,000 Jamaica Plain residents yesterday celebrated spring with a parade and festival of song, dance and food.

The eighth annual Wake Up the Earth Festival began with toddlers in face paint, teen-agers on stilts and adults disguised as giant toasters swivelling their way along Centre Street; Merchants and shoppers tapped their feet and waved their arms to calypso; and mariachi and salsa bands passing in open trucks.

Flowers adorned lapels and huge stick puppets were held aloft amid the acrobats, dancers and school groups taking part.

"This is the biggest parade we've ever had," said Leroy Stoddard, director of the Southwest Corridor Community Farm, which began the festival in 1978 and continues to act as one of its main organizers.

The parade ended at the community farm, a half-block, one-acre plot at 55 Lamartine St., part of the swath of land originally cleared and set aside for an extension of I-95. The extenstion's construction was stopped partly because of pressure from some environmentalists and local activists who organized yesterday's event.

"This land was stripped of housing to make the highway. The people who stopped the highway have become a multi-service group dedicated to environmental issues, community gardening and local job creation," Stoddard said.

Following several rousing speeches of thanks delivered in English and Spanish, Latin bands took the stage and residents lined up for an array of food for sale, ranging from Chilean empanandas to fried chicken and corn bread.

The garden, on land currently owned by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, is divided into 42 plots, all tended by local residents who grow fruits, vegetables and flowers.

For the first time, the Metropolitan District Commission helped sponsor the event, according to MDC spokeswoman Laura Palmer.

A section of parkland across the street from the farm, part of a five-mile strip which runs from the South End to Forest Hills – along the new southwest transportation corridor – will be turned over to the MDC next year and is being landscaped based partly on local needs, she said.

The festival, whose dozens of cosponsors include the Jamaica Plain Arts Council, Urban Edge, the Arnold Arboretum and the Boston Greenspace, offered a special tribute to the Massachusetts Army National Guard, 26th Yankee Division, for helping transport thousands of cubic yards of topsoil for use in urban gardens.

Men in camouflage fatigues ceremoniously drove a National Guard truck, festooned in streamers, onto the site and dumped a symbolic mound of dirt near the garden.

The soil was donated by the University of Massachusetts Medical Center in Worcester.

"Much of the soil in Boston contains lead and sometimes there simply isn't any because we farm where buildings stood," explained Julie Stone of Boston Urban Gardeners.

While everyone else was living it up yesterday, some participants took the occasion to get some work done.

Mary Lenihan, Bobbi Katz and John Seyfried, all Jamaica Plain residents, were straightening out a long-neglected plot on which they planned to plant herbs, flowers and vegetables. They hoped to get hold of some of that Worcester soil which, they contended, would make all the difference between a fallow and a fertile plot.

The Boston Sunday Globe, May 4, 1986

Festival Coalition protests process at

Community Meeting on Southwest Corridor

A major community meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 12** at **7 pm** at **Jamaica Plain High School** for the community to meet with key state and city officials to discuss the final phase of the Southwest Corridor Project.

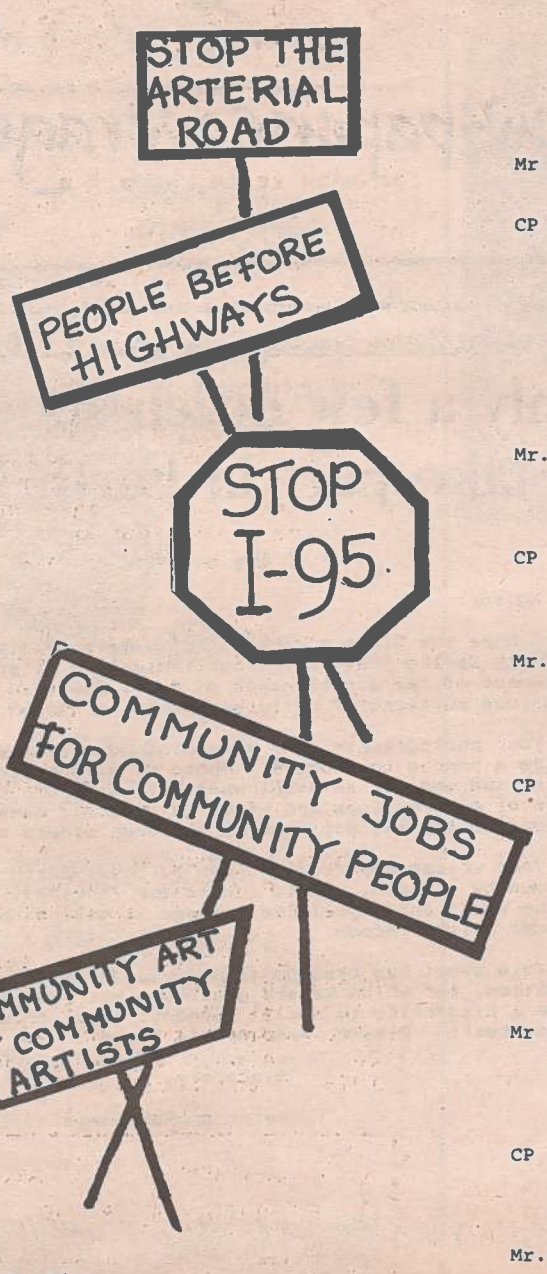
Topics will include: takedown of the Orange Line, reconstruction of Washington Street, land disposition along the Corridor, and Parkland management and programming.

State Officials invited include: Secretary of Transportation Frederick Salvucci, MBTA General Manager James O'Leary, and MDC Commissioner Williams Geary.

City Officials invited include: Public Facilities Director Lisa Chapnick, Transportation Commissioner Richard Dimino, Public Works Commissioner Joseph Casazza, and Neighborhood Services Director Donald Gillis. Mc Donough

Sponsors include: myself, Senator Lewis, Reps. Myerson and Fitzgerald, and Councillors Menino and Hennigan.

This meeting is your opportunity to hear and to question the key officials whose decisions will determine the success or failure of the final phase of this massive, long project.


STOP THE ARTERIAL ROAD
PEOPLE BEFORE HIGHWAYS
STOP I-95
COMMUNITY JOBS FOR COMMUNITY PEOPLE
COMMUNITY ART BY COMMUNITY ARTISTS
THE LAND BELONGS TO THOSE who work it

Home On The Opening Day Celebration

(Sung to the tune of Home, Home On The Range)

Oh give us a home
Where the P R firms roam
And the bids are reviewed secretly,
Where seldom is heard
A dissenting word
And procedures flow forth naturally.

Home home at the T
With our brothers the M D C,
Where seldom is heard
A discordant word
And we tend to think linearly.

When the work is all done,
And what's left is just fun --
A party with speeches and grub.
Please keep us above
Neighborhoods and Hub bub
On a pedestal for all to see.

Home home at the T,
Where it's comfy for you and for me.
If they agitate --
Those awful ingrates--
We'll show them who's boss, certainly.

Oh give us a meal
Of crabmeat and veal
And speeches said masterfully.
We'll package it well,
In Peoria to sell,
Who cares who's applied locally.

Home home at the T,
Where we know what a party should be:
Let the stations resound
With the vibes from Downtown
And festivity run properly.

Oh, throw them a bone
(But only on loan)--
A subcontract that's phrased harmlessly.
We'll allot one per cent

From the funds that were meant
For just such a contingency.

Home home at the T,
Where we choose firms so judiciously,
A firm which we hope will not rock the boat--
A party that's planned to a T.

Words by Peter Rosenbaum

Skit performed at Corridor "Summit"

written by Femke Rosenbaum

Cast:
Mr. T - white male in business suit
a black secretary- with clipboard/taking notes
CP- community people
Artist

1972

Mr T As a result of the Boston Transportation Planning Review the Governor has decided that the highway will not be built!!!!

CP Hooray, hooray
We did it!!!
People before highways!!!
They say this will be the single largest public construction project in the history of Boston
I heard the budget is $800,000,000.-!!!!
Too bad the announcement came after they tore down all the houses
Well, at least we will get some jobs out of this, that ought to patch up some of those sore spots.
Yeah, COMMUNITY JOBS FOR COMMUNITY PEOPLE!!!!

Mr.T Ahem, I'm sorry, but we cannot hire community people because.... blah-blah-blah-blah-blah, but ofcourse we'll train some token minorities and women to be construction workers.
You know this is highly technical stuff blah-blah-blah!!!!

CP O well that is disappointing
I guess we just don"t have the skills required.
But wait 'till they build the park, surely we would know how to plant trees!!!

Mr. T Ahem, ahem, I'm sorry but we have given the contract to a big company , who really knows what they are doing.
You know- federal regulations, unions blah-blah- you just can't get around it.
But, you should put your hopes on maintenance.

CP Yeah, that's a good idea
Those jobs will be around forever and besides we will know where to go when the job isn't being done right!!!!
But don't you think they'll find an excuse not to hire us by saying that we don't have the skills?
Let's start a training program at Roxbury community College to train our own people for landscaping.
And the farm's doing landscaping. They're building up a trackrecord.
Bromley Heath had been doing their own maintenance for years.
Everybody knows it works well, people come from all over the world to look at it!!!!

Mr T Ahem, Ahem, ahem...
Well we submitted this budget to the legislature, but they didn't fund all that we asked for.
I'm sorry but... I'm afraid the community jobs had to be crossed of but....there are 11 civil service jobs!!!!

CP 11 civil service jobs?
Well I hope these civil servants will at least be from the community!!!!
How can our people become civil servants?

Mr.T You have to have taken a civil service exam 3 years ago and we have already more than 11 people on our waiting list.
You know we have to look out for our own people too.

CP When are the next civil service exams?

Mr T I don't know

Artist- (comes out of the audience, carrying a sign that says: Community Art By Community People)
Wait a minute- now that you're talking.
I am an artist and I would like to know what is happening to the money for the arts!!!
I was at a meeting years ago at the Green Street Gallery.
The place was packed with local artists and one message came out loud and clear: COMMUNITY ARTS BY COMMUNITY ARTISTS!!!!

Mr T Well, we didn't quite know how to deal with that blah-blah-blah- so we hired a blh blah urban arts consultant blah and out of the 9 selected artists 4 of them were from the Massachussettes community!!!!

CP May be there will be something for local artists in the Education Program.
I hear they just got $200,000.- from Mr. T
Listen to this, I picked up this glossy brochure last night at the Neighborhood councils ~~meeting~~ committee meeting on Arts and Human services. Ireads quotes from brochure)
Yeah, so they're hiring 3 administrators and 2 interviewers for an oral history project. I found this listing just by chance because a friend of a friend had the inside track.
Is that what they mean by community arts?

Mr.T Ahem, ahem...
There still is the $100,000.- for the opening celebration.
We're putting out an RFP drawn up by a very big and reputable PR firm. There is an open, competitive bidding process!!!

CP When did you say it was?

Mr. T Ahem, we have had to ahem postpone it , but it will be on May 2

CP May 2!!!!
That's the same day as the Wake Up The Earth Festival!!!!
If you look at what we have done on a shoestring budget imagine what we could do with some decent funding!!!
Yeah , and we have been celebrating the corridor for the past 8years.

Last year the Globe called it:"a spirited tribute to urban gardening, community arts and racial harmony"
We could network with other neighborhoods in the Corridor!!
The parade could go all the way along the corridor!!
And you could get on the T to see it over and over again!!!
Also, the environmental theme fits well with the notion of taking public Transportation.
We certainly are qualified for this one!!!
Nothing can match our spontaneity.
And our spirit
And our dedication

Mr.T Ahem- ahem... Of course your ideas are great, and we would like to use them , but , youknow.. this is big stuff you know..$800,000,000.- of glamour and flash, you've gotta be profeesional, you gotta have the right image, you've got to be slick blah blah blah.....

CP You mean we can't even throw our own party?

Audience WAKE UP THE T
WAKE UP THE T
WAKE UP THE T

What happened this year...

continued from page 1

We Huddled. In the Festival Coalition a split developed between a majority who wanted to go ahead with a smaller scale Festival in spite of the lack of time and money and a minority who wanted to admit defeat and sit this one out. Our contradictory announcements confused our public. In the end we decided to go ahead and again create something out of nothing, at which we are expert. And we knew we owed the public an explanation.

We Learned. Our assumptions were foolish. We had the audacity to invite the public authorities to join a grassroots celebration. But the T made it clear that we had it all backwards, that it would do the inviting, not us.

We proposed an event that would be participatory from conception to cleanup. The T instead purchased a slick production package, a "magical" event, a party engineered by "behind-the-scenes technicians.

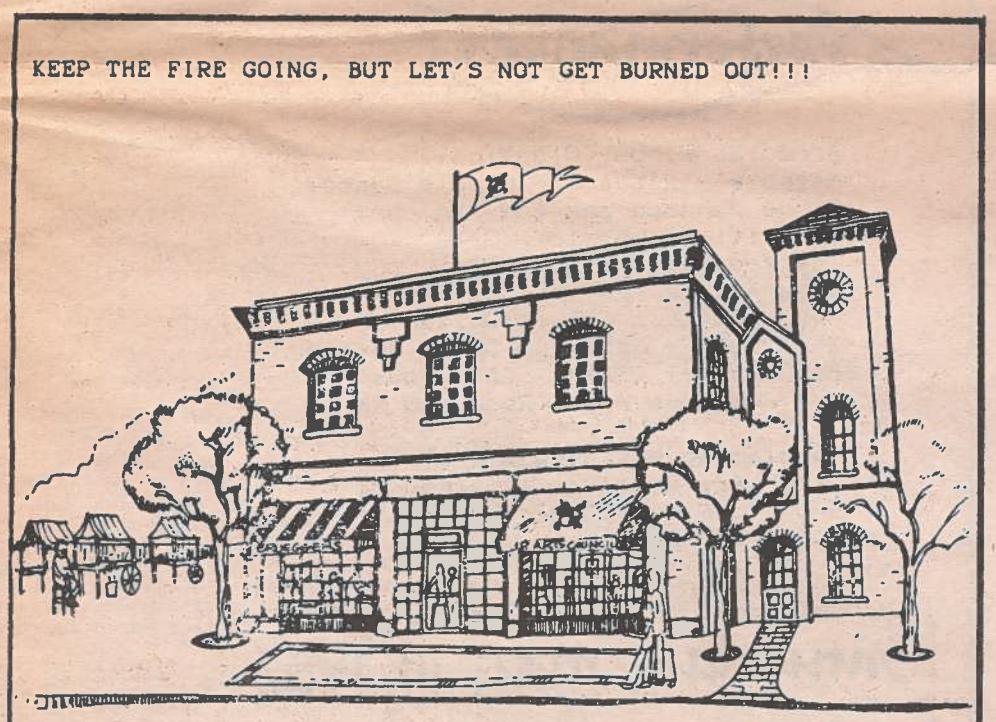
We never would have dreamed up the token giveaways, the Orange change purses, the "T" cupcakes and the "paid volunteers" handing out Coke and party favors. Our floral displays would disappoint the professional arrangers who see no glory in garlands around the head and daisies in a kid's hand.

For us a festival is not a bazaar of entrepreneurs commanded by a field marshal. "Input"--"Have we left anything out?"--at a post-planning breakfast is not participation in creation. "Outreach" is not an announcement of "what will happen."

We should have known better. Our Festival is a community celebration that springs from common cultural traditions that are more enduring than any governmental authority. We join hands in our Unity Celebration to pledge our trust in each other, not in any ephemeral candidacy. We are not the backdrop. We are the ones from whose consent just power is derived.

How can we explain the success of the Wake Up the Earth Festival and other community projects that share its spirit? Surely they must derive from rhythms deep within us and, as we gather to celebrate, these ancient beats gain intensity and become the most deeply satisfying music we can make together.

KEEP THE FIRE GOING, BUT LET'S NOT GET BURNED OUT!!!



proposal by Bruegger's Bagels & Jamaica Plain Arts Council

The Jamaica Plain Arts Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to bringing arts, culture, and the community together. In collaboration with the Southwest Corridor Community Farm and many other community groups, it has been a major sponsor of the Wake Up the Earth Festival since its first year.

Since incorporating in 1984, the J.P. Arts Council has worked to create a Multicultural Community Arts Center in the former J.P. Firehouse on Centre Street. Thanks to tremendous community support and a partnership with Bruegger's Bagel Bakery, this historic firehouse, built in 1874, will now continue to serve the public in a new form.

With the Firehouse opening only 3 weeks away, the J.P. Arts Council's grassroots fundraising drive has not yet come close to its goal. If the 3000 people who sent this postcard to Mayor Flynn, advocating for the Firehouse Arts Center, would each raise $100 in memberships, there would be enough money for the operating costs.

PLEASE JOIN THE CAMPAIGN NOW !!! SEND MONEY TO:
J.P. Arts Council, P.O. Box 222, J.P. 02130 (524-3816)

JOIN THIS YEAR'S WAKE UP THE EARTH PARADE to the grand opening on Saturday, May 16th, gathering at the Southwest Corridor Community Farm on Lamartine Street, J.P. at 10 am.

Related Projects

Beecher Street - Adopt-a-Lot - Art in the Park

For many years the strip of land next to the community garden on Paul Gore and Beecher Street was just an empty lot. Everyone assumed it was privately owned until a neighbor working for the Boston Conservation Commission found out that the land belonged to the Parks and Recreation Department.

With the help of the Parks Partnership program, the Southwest Corridor Community Farm and community volunteers, this empty lot has been gradually transformed into a park and playground. Environmental as well as art education programs have been offered to local children with help from Arts Lottery and Foundation money. Many neighbors have adopted some land to give their support for this project. A volleyball team has been playing on Sunday afternoons, and community potlucks and barbeques have happened during the summer.

This year we will focus on building an environment with natural materials. Two weekends are set aside to accomplish this - one in the beginning of the summer and one at the end. Volunteers are cordially invited!

First week-end is June 20-21 Adopt -a- Lot
Second one is September 19-20 Art in the Park
Community Potluck June 13 around 6 pm

Also back by popular demand is The Hutbuilding Project which will take place from July 13 to 17. Volunteer Counselors are needed as well as donations of wood.

Since we didn't get major funding last year and didn't get a proposal in this year, we welcome funds from everyone. For information call 522-2809 or write to the Southwest Corridor Community Farm, 46 Chestnut Ave., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130. Also read about the "hutproject" that took place in 1979 in the Southwest Corridor!

A JOURNEY OF LIGHT AROUND JAMAICA POND FOR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS, YOUNG AND OLD...

Un viaje de luz alrededor del lago para familias y amigos jovenes y adultos...

LANTERN PARADE

PARADA DE FAROLES

OCTOBER 25 DE OCTUBRE*

Meet at Jamaica Pond Boathouse (Pond Street) 30-45 min. before sunset.

4PM

Nos reuniremos 30e45 minutos antes que el aterdecer caiga.

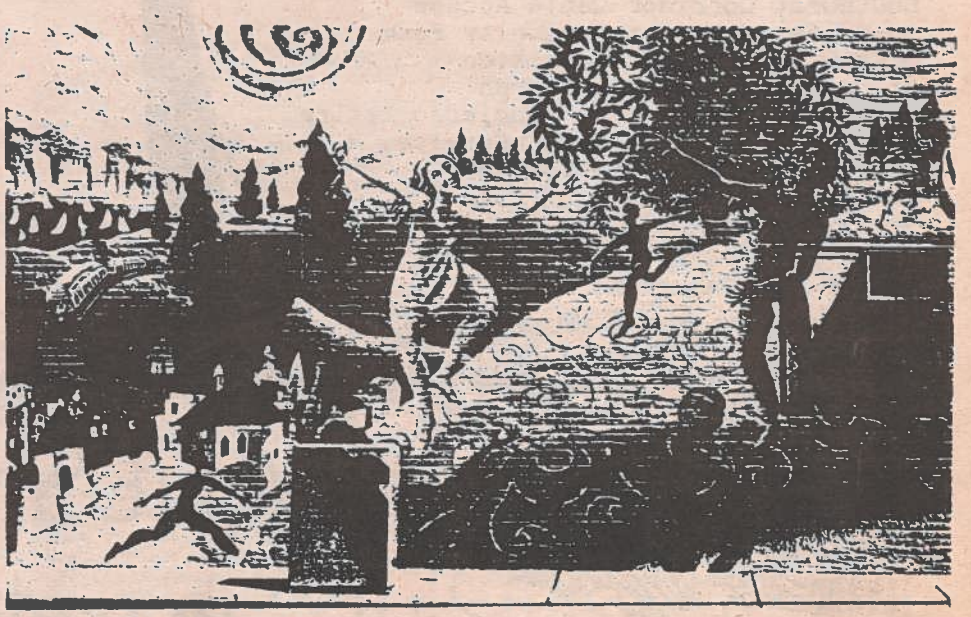
REFRESHMENTS

LANTERNMAKING WORKSHOPS WITH STORYTELLER DEV LUTHRA
Clases de hacer faroles y tambien cuentos con Dev Luthra

ON TUESDAYS AT CHEVRUS HALL (behind the Blessed Sacrament Church 365 Centre Street, J.P.)
OCTOBER 7, 14, & 21 FROM 7-8:30 PM

AT THE JAMAICA POND BOATHOUSE on Sunday, Oct 19, 3-4:30pm.

AT THE HUMAN RACE FESTIVAL at Daisy Field, Oct 25, 1-3p.m.



"The Wake Up The Earth Festival Mural" © 1984
Painted by Connie Barbour and Friends.
Centre and Saint John Streets, Jamaica Plain, Boston, Massachusetts
Photograph by Connie Barbour

SPONSORS & MAJOR DONORS

Arborway Video & Sound
Arnold Arboretum
Art of Black Dance and Music
James Babson
Judith A. Barnes
Blackbird Kitchen
Boston Childrens Museum
Boston Globe Foundation
Boston GreenSpace Alliance
Boston Natural Areas Fund
Boston Public Schools
Boston Urban Gardeners
Bromley-Cooper Collaborative
Bromley-Heath Community Centers
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Southwest Corridor Cable Access
Southwest Corridor Community Farm
Southwest Corridor Coalition
St. John's Episcopal Church
Streetfeet Stilt Club/ Sociedad Latina
Suffolk County Extension Service, 4-H
Tucker Concrete Form Company
Unerectors, Inc.
Urban Edge
J.F.White Contracting Company

Food for Thought
Children are the Future

Join these Festival Events
Saturday, May 2, 1987

BOSTON GREENSPACE

Second Annual Great Parks Walk May 2, 1987

On May 2, 1987, the Boston GreenSpace Alliance will conduct its second annual Great Parks Walk, a celebration of Boston's green spaces. Guided by leaders from community, park and urban gardening groups, this year's walk will explore the new Southwest Corridor Park in conjunction with its grand opening and the Wake Up the Earth Festival. The Walk will begin at Boston Common, continue through the Public Garden, arriving at the beginning of the southwest Corridor Park on time for opening ceremonies. The Walk will continue with the Wake Up the Earth Festival. Time will be provided to eat lunch and then we will head out to Franklin Park for the conclusion.

Tentative starting time: 9 am at Park Street Station. For more information call the Alliance at 426-7980.

12noon - 6pm at the Farm
Lamartine St., between Stony Brook & Jackson Square (T) stops

Performances

Arcadian Winds (Classical)
Maypole - Rituals - Circle Dances
Alice Johnson and Andy Holiner
Graffiti (Jazz)
The Feds (Rappers)
Grease Pole
Chris Smither (Blues Guitar)
Kakilambe - Uprising Dance Theater
Benny Sadel (Salsa - Meringue)
The Fabulous Roys (Rock and Roll)

Special appearances by:
Tita Wernimont- Stiltwalker
Down to Earth Landscape Quartet
Rainbow Superkids

Saturday, May 16, 1987

Join the PARADE to the
GRAND OPENING
of the
Firehouse Community Arts Center

10am · gather at Farm, Lamartine St.
12 noon · Firehouse Opening Ceremonies
7pm · Special Performance
9pm PARTY · PARTY · PARTY !

YES to Wake up The Earth
the Southwest Corridor Community Farm
46 Chestnut Ave. J.P. Mass. 02130
accept my donation of

name: _____

address: _____